WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 8 | THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION | DECEMBER 2002

Preserving the Blue Wall of Silence Together:

Olympia Police Department, Thurston County Sheriff's Office, and *The Olympian*

Marco Rosaire Rossi

The information that has been released publicly on Stephen L. Edwards, the man who died after being shot with a taser by two members of the Olympia Police Department outside of Bayview Thriftway on November 7th around 3:00pm, has several very suspicious qualities to it. From what has been reported in *The Olympian* it appears that Edwards was shoplifting some meat and household items when a security guard came out to confront him. Edwards and the security guard began a physical altercation and the police were called. It is claimed that Edwards had a gun and was reaching for it while he was wrestling with the security guard. Officer Jordan, the first officer on the scene, shot Edwards with a taser, but it failed to have any effect on Edwards. Edwards was not subdued until Officer Bakala came onto the scene and managed to get Edwards into the back of the patrol car where he mysteriously died. The details of this synopsis is riddled with contradiction and incomplete answers. The reporting of the incident, or lack there of, would make any critical mind conclude with almost a moral certainty that the Olympia Police Department and the Thurston County Sheriff's Office is purposely failing to report the facts of the case and *The Olympian Newspaper* is willingly neglecting pursuit of the story.

The details around Edwards' gun have not made much sense as they have been reported by *The Olympian*. In an article published on November 8th, Ruth Longorio, a reported for *The Olympian* that covers law enforcement, wrote that Edwards was reaching for "a handgun in his waistband" while he pushed the security guard toward his car. Officer Jordan opened fire with the taser which was unsuccessful in subduing him. The next day *The Olympian* published a second article on the incident that Ruth Longorio wrote that had a totally different account of the events. Longorio reports Edwards was not reaching for the gun in his waistband when he was shot by Officer Jordan. Instead, the gun dropped out of Edwards hands while they were wrestling and fell underneath the car. Edwards was now reaching under the car for the gun when he was shot with the taser by Officer Jordan. The events concerning if Edwards was armed and if he posed a threat to the officers or to the security guard or to anyone else in the area is extremely important in judging the security guard's and the officers' behavior in handling the situation. This irrational contradiction in the Longorio's reporting is misleading and 1984-esque doublethink.

The Olympian's reporting sometimes even degrades to blatant lies. Longoria's second article on the incident reports a comment from Taser Technologies that "no electrical death from Taser has been observed or proven during more than 20 years that tasers have been used by law enforcement." Apparently Taser Technologies and *The Olympian* are not aware of the report that the medical journal *Lancet* issued on September 1, 2002 which claimed that three out of the 218 people hit by tasers died from it. The report also noted there is an "injury threshold" where two people who never had cardiac disease went into cardiac arrest after being shot.

***The details around Edwards' gun have not made much sense as they have been reported by* The Olympian.**

What is left out of the story makes the reporting even more egregious. Captain Dan Kimball, from the Thurston County Sheriff's Office, who is heading up the internal investigation, along with the Olympia Police Department, have refused to release the number of times that Edwards was shot with a taser. That information is crucial in finding out if the officers involved acted carelessly or maliciously.

The overextended 3 to 4 weeks to do the autopsy on Edwards, which was originally scheduled to take place the morning after the incident, makes the whole situation even more suspicious. Could it be that the County Sheriff's Office and the OPD are stalling the investigation hoping that the whole situation will blow over in time? That the County Sheriff's Office and the OPD are doing more to cover up what happened than to report it?

The facts are suggesting so, especially when one considers the history of the officers involved. Officer Paul Bakala is a patrol officer in the downtown area who is known to have problems with his anger. He has been seen yelling at people in Sylvester Park and has had several complaints (though few if any are officially reported -- for fear of retaliation) by members of the homeless and downtown community who find his behavior to be threatening.

Officer Jeff Jordan also has a suspicious past. Ten month before the events outside Bayview Thriftway unfolded, a

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What About the Homeless on Christmas?

The Cold and Hungry Coalition and the Emma Goldman Youth and Homeless Outreach Project (EGYHOP) are banding together to bring about love and light on Christmas for the homeless. We want to put together 50-75 gift bags. In order to do this, we need our community's help.

As we sit with our families and share gifts on Christmas Eve, what about those who have no homes and no families? What about those who have nothing to show that someone cares on Christmas?

****

We need donations to be given out on Christmas Eve

Ask yourself, if you were homeless, what small item(s) would you want to make life just a little bit easier?

Some suggested items:

Flashlights, batteries, candles, first-aid kit, gym bags, shaving kit bags, backpacks, keychain tools, nail/toe clippers, gloves, sewing kits, thermal underwear (especially bottoms!), art supplies, laptop computer (OK maybe not that) or just about anything that might make someone feel not left out on Christmas.

To make a donation, contact the Cold and Hungry and EGYHOP Alicia (360) 867-1400 or Long hair david at (360) 791-2241.

WIP Photographer Assaulted by Olympia Police Officer Rios

by Pat Tassoni

November 26, 2002 -- With the *Works In Progress* digital camera in hand, I headed downtown to get some pictures of the march Against Police Brutality & For Police Accountability. I arrived shortly after 5pm.

The march of 20 participants left heading west on 4th Ave on the sidewalk towards the scene of the man's death at Bayview Thriftway. I continued with the crowd taking pictures into the Bayview parking lot as they entered the store. The march had progressed this far without incidence.

The marchers filed out from the store into a swelled line of at least nine police officers. Officer Partin asked the crowd to move into the parking lot and he would bring Bayview's owner out. The crowd stayed in the entrance. I began to circulate to get pictures of the event as it was unfolding.

The crowd decided to stay where they were and asked for a moment of silence for the man that had died by police tasers. I took some pictures of the circular gathering. As I was changing disks in the digital camera I looked up to find Officer Rios standing next to me. Then without warning he pushed me back with his hand in my chest and he said "Stop taking my picture!"

I told him "you just assaulted me"; to which he made a reply about it being some kind of technique (I think he used the word subdue or submission). I cut him off and said that he can expect me to file a complaint against him. After my last comment I walked past him into the backs of two of the officers 'standing guard' and lightly pushed my way through them saying "excuse me boys, I'm done here." I went up to officer Pryde and told him I wanted to file a complaint against Rios for assault.

After the crowd regained its focus, Partin brought out Kevin Storman to answer questions. I took some pictures of that interaction.

The crowd proceeded to City Hall to demand the council create a Civilian Review Board for Police Accountability. At city hall, Pryde offered me a complaint form, but he made no attempt to gather witness statements to the incident.

The only rationale I can come up with for Rios' assault on me was that he was trying to incite the crowd. Fortunately the crowd did not respond and only received another shining example of police malfeasance and unaccountability.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/ black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, <wip@olywa.net>

Back Issues:

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Dave Campbell — **Margaret Love**
Sebastian Chase — **Sandy Mayes**
Tom Chenhall — **Hali Panneton**
Renee Cruickshank — **Jeff Sowers**
Megan Davis — **Sylvia Smith**
Teresa Jennings — **Pat Tassoni**
Jerome Johnson

Mission Statement:

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Governing Tool:

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:

Friday, Dec. 20th

PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507
phone/fax (360) 705-2726
wip@olywa.net * www.olywa.net/wip

Advertising Info

→ **W.I.P. Ads at 705-2726**

Inch Rate $7.50
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Announcements, etc.

ARTWROC

Saturday, December 7th
from 4pm to 8pm
at the Fertile Ground Bed and Breakfast
311 9th Ave (behind the downtown library)

ArtWROC is a party to celebrate and sell the art and crafts work of our community. Get inspired, find original gifts, meet great people and enjoy live music, food and drinks, and lots of fun. Artists donate 50% of the proceeds to The Welfare Rights Orgainizing Coalition. For info call WROC at (360) 352-9716.

Holiday Marketplace And Graduation

Tuesday, December 10
Phoenix Inn, 417 Capitol Way N.
Holiday Marketplace from 5-7:00 p.m.
Graduation from 7:00-8:30
Light refreshments

Please join us to celebrate the graduating entrepreneurs from our Fall 2002 Business Planning Course. These graduates have attended a ten-session training course and have developed their own small business plans.

They will present a brief summary of their plan at the graduation and have their products and promotional materials on display.

Our new graduates include a yoga teacher, sculptor, specialist in hand painted tiles, office/home space organizer, and many others.

Meet these entrepreneurs and learn more about their emerging small enterprises.

Get to know our board members, trainers, mentors, past graduates and other volunteers as we support these entrepreneurs on their path to self employment. We will also share information about Enterprise for Equity, our upcoming events and ways you can get involved. For further information please call, Lisa Smith 704-3375.

Enterprise for Equity is a non-profit organization founded in Olympia, Washington in 1997. We work together to ensure that low-income and low-wage workers have access to training, credit, technical assistance and support to start and run small businesses.

Stories of Sharing the Wealth

HEARTSPARKLE PLAYERS Presents: Playback Theatre Performance In collaboration with TULIP Thurston Union of Low Income People
Friday December 20 at 7:30 pm
at Traditions - 300 5th Ave SW (downtown Olympia)
Suggested donation $5 to $10 (No one is turned away)

Background Information about the December performance: Each month we invite a guest artist, community organization, arts program or social service agency to be a part of our performance Through this collaboration we acknowledge and honor the work individuals and organizations do in our community.

Background Information about Playback Theatre: Playback Theatre is a spontaneous collaboration between performers and audience. People tell moments from their lives, then watch them re-created with movement, music and dialogue.

Background Information about TULIP, Thurston Union of Low Income People: TULIP has been working on obtaining a state-issued community credit union charter to serve low income people and plans to begin in late 2002. The group of volunteers in the Olympia commuity wanted to improve access to financial services for low-imcome people. While there are a num-

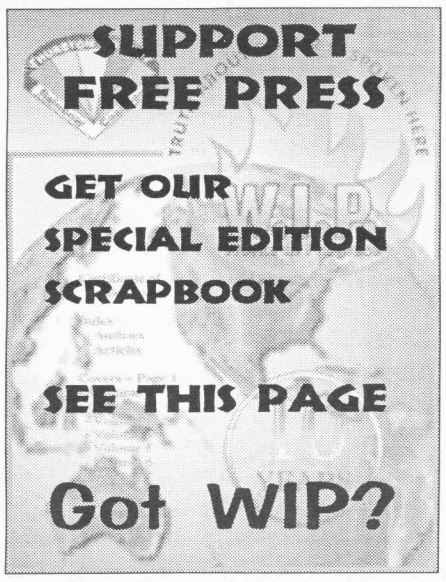
(continued page 11)

SOUTH SOUND
GREEN PAGES
South Sound's Monthly Environmental Newspaper

Green Pages is a forum for individuals and organizations concerned about the integrity of our environment and the quality of life in our community.

209 East 4th Ave., Suite 206
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 786-6349
speech@olywa.net www.olywa.net/speech

Only You Can Keep WIP Going for Another 10 Years



Subscriptions: ☐ Individual … $35 ☐ Low-Income …$15

Merchandise: ☐ WIP Flame LogoT-Shirt . . . $15 each; # _____ size(s)_____
☐ WIP 10-year Retrospective Scrapbook . . . $15 each
☐ Catalog/Index Listing…$1; back issues…$1/each (while supplies last)

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If the corporations aren't paying for it, then you have to!

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DECEMBER 2002

Goodbye 4th Amendment!

Since 1978, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) has allowed the US government to spy on citizens for foreign intelligence purposes. It's called "counterintelligence". Now things have changed. As of November 19, and thanks to the "Patriot" Act, the Justice Department is able to obtain FISA warrants to gather information (wiretap, search homes, read email, etc) for prosecution of alleged domestic criminal activities...all without showing "probable cause". David Cole of Georgetown University Law Center calls it "an end run around the Fourth Amendment."

The FISA court is composed of a "rotating panel of 10 judges appointed by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. They meet every two weeks in a soundproofed, undisclosed location to rule on government applications. The court's rulings are always secret and the people targeted never know that the court has approved the investigations." In 10,000 applications, the FISA court has only rejected one.

In May, the FISA Court unanimously rejected the Justice Department's application to obtain a FISA warrant "for a criminal investigation." However, last month the FISA Appeals Court, consisting of three semi-retired appellate court judges originally appointed to the bench by Reagan, overturned the ruling. The FISA Appeals Court has only met once and now, according to Cole, will probably never meet again.

Source: Big Brother's big win by Eric Boehlert, *Salon*; Secret Court Lifts Bar on Terror Suspect Surveillance by Dan Eggen, *Washington Post*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **1999**: Seattle police attack WTO protesters **2001**: US allies in Afghanistan encircle Kandahar while US bombs	**2** **1859**: John Brown hanged in Virginia **2001**: Enron files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy **2001**: US marines join assault on Kandahar	**3** **2001**: Sharon declares "war on terrorism", begins bombing Palestine **2001**: Thurston Co. officials expect $2.5 million short fall in 2002	**4** **2001**: 1/3 of Washington women victims of sexual assault **2001**: Workers gives Olympia's Dick Cushing no-confidence vote	**5** **1999**: AFL-CIO's John Sweeney welcomes failure of WTO talks **2001**: TESC students/ faculty members protest war in Afghanistan	**6** **2001**: Locke restarts state construction projects to create jobs. **2001**: Taliban soldiers surrender weapons to opposition forces	**7** **1835**: S. Carolina, request for federal assistance to prevent mail circulation of antislavery publications, Pres. Jackson agrees
8 **1962**: Strike called by the International Typographical Union shuts down nine newspapers in New York City for 114 days	**9** **1996**: Thurston County Commissioners refuse to take turns in providing shelter in government buildings during cold weather	**10** **2001**: Gov admits Gulf War vets twice as likely to develop Lou Gehrigs' disease **2001**: Vietnam Airlines orders four 777s	**11** **1816**: Indiana is admitted as a free state **2001**: Locke presents proposal to raise money for transportation w/ 9¢ gas tax hike	**12** **1999**: 1/3 of HIV patients give up on medical care due to cost or lack of time; minorities, women, and poor are most effected	**13** **1999**: Surgeon Gen. Satcher says one in 5 have a mental illness **2001**: Pres. Bush's education plan passes in the House	**14** **2001**: US military admits not knowing where Bin Laden is **2001**: Boeing lays off 7, 200 in Puget Sound region
15 **1890**: Sitting Bull, chief of the Sioux Indians, is shot and killed in South Dakota following a skirmish with federal troops	**16** **1835**: Texas says it will secede from Mexico rather than give up the "right" to slavery, which Mexico had abolished	**17** **1998**: 25 killed and 75 injured in continued bombing of Iraq **2001**: Pentagon says where bin Laden is is "anybody's guess"	**18** **2001**: Locke proposes state workforce reduction, program eliminations including the state library, and higher taxes on hard liquor	**19** **1998**: Clinton halts air strikes against Iraq saying "significant damage" had been done and calls for the overthrow of Saddam Hussein	**20** **2001**: US bombs convoy of 14 vehicles killing 65, reports from region claim they were Afghan tribal elders who supported new gov	**21** **2001**: Boeing lays off 1,287 in Seattle area **2001**: FBI has interviewed almost 5,000 Middle Eastern men since 9/11
22 **1869**: Due to the dismissal of African-Americans from its State Legislature, Georgia is denied representation in Congress	**23** **2001**: Arafat to make pilgrimage to W Bank town where Jesus was born after Israel banned him from attending Christian service there	**24** **1997**: Fed judge okays swap between Weyerhaeuser and Forest Service of 4,352 acres w/ old-growth for heavily logged 30,253 acres	**25** **1865**: Chicago opens stockyards; changes business of mid-west **1956**: Rev Shuttlesworth's Birmingham home bombed w/ TNT	**26** **1996**: James Earl Ray wakes from coma **1999**: *Time* magazine names Albert Einstein as its Person of the Twentieth Century	**27** **2001**: Unemployment benefits are extended for 41,000 in WA state **2001**: Bush signs permanent trade treaty with China	**28** **2000**: US population is at 281,421,906, **2000**: Fed. Judge allows T. McVeigh to drop all appeals and receive execution date
29 **1998**: Iraq warns it will fire on US/Brit planes **2001**: India continues to send troops to Pakistan border refusing Pakistan's call for talks	**30** **1995**: Members of Economic Development Council claim "Intel is going to put us on the map for high-tech development."	**31** **1999**: Russia's President Yeltsin announces his resignation **2001**: US steps up efforts in Afghanistan to find bin Laden				

When you start expanding authority like this to where there's no standards, all you increase are the number of innocent people who are surveilled unnecessarily.

Joshua L. Dratel, Nat'l Assoc of Criminal Defense Lawyers

The Jade Lantern

News from the Green Party of South Puget Sound

Greens Blossom in 2002!

On November 5, 2002, the Green Party successfully elected more Greens to local and state government offices than any previous year. We elected 77 candidates, bringing the national Green Party officeholder total to 171. For the first time in United States history, Green Party members have a voice in the Maine State House of Representatives. John Eder of Maine (G), will have the opportunity to demonstrate the values and principles of the Green Party in greater public view. Also of note, Green candidate Ann Drea Benson in Pennsylvania's 3rd Congressional District, won 22% — the best yet for a Green in a House race. And many Greens running nation-wide improved on the vote totals since the Nader campaign in 2000. Visit our web site at www.gpus.org for more detailed election statistics and Green Party news.

This year's Green Party victories are indicative that the American people want a positive change and a viable future. As more Americans become disheartened with corporate control over elected officials, they will find a voice and true representation with Green Party values. **Membership applications can be downloaded from www.greenparty-sps.org! Our email address is gposps@yahoo.com.**

Alert! Support Needed to Protect Wildlife

For two years, the Audubon Society has made a concerted legal effort to protect the Black River Wildlife Refuge from county approval of a proposed asphalt plant to be built near by. Even so, the county's hearing examiner made the decision to permit the plant to go forward. In response, the Audubon Society, with the support of many concerned local residents and activists, filed suit to challenge the examiner's decision. The County Commissioners then voted 2-1 in favor of sending the matter back to the examiner for further investigation into several concerns, such as water quality and quantity, traffic congestion and permit validation. The next hearing will be on Dec 17, 2002, 10 AM at the Thurston County Courthouse, Building One. Anyone wishing an update or further information may contact Sue Danver at 705-9247.

Peacekeeper Training Offered in Lacey

The Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) and the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) are organizing a day of basic peacekeeper training to add to a pool of trained peacekeepers needed for future rallies, marches and other gatherings. Rosy Betz-Zall and Erica Kay, two highly skilled trainers from Seattle, will lead the training this Sunday, December 15, from 1:00 to 5:20 p.m. at the Lacey Community Church, 4501 19th Ave SE, Lacey, (slightly west of College Street — #66 bus). Please arrive a few minutes early so we can promptly start at 1:00 PM. A donation will be requested to cover costs. Please pre-register with Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olywa.net

Post Election Observations

by Marilou Rickert
Green Party Candidate for State Senate
35th Legislative District

First of all, I want to say "THANK YOU" to everyone who helped with my Green Party Campaign for the State Senate. I am overwhelmed by the strong grassroots support for my campaign. More than seventy people volunteered, at least 20 who worked almost nonstop in the three or four weeks before the election. More than 150 individuals donated money or made in-kind contributions to the campaign.

Despite an adverse political climate, an unknown candidate, a powerful incumbent, and the uphill battle faced by all third parties, the Green Party received nearly 22% of the vote in Washington's 35th Legislative District.

This was more than any third party candidacy anywhere in the state, although the Green Party's Linde Knighton received almost 21% in the State Senatorial contest in Seattle's 43rd District. It was also more than the percentage received by two Republican challengers for the state legislature. All the Green Party has to do to begin winning elections is to continue to field candidates.

In addition to a strong electoral showing, the campaign has significantly raised the profile of the Green Party. Press coverage of the campaign was generally positive, with only the Bremerton Sun refusing to take a third party candidacy seriously. I was included in most candidate forums. The South Puget Sound Greens have gained 10-15 new members, and we now have enough Mason County Greens to start our own party. Student volunteers from the Evergreen State College are starting a Campus Greens organization as well.

During this campaign, I've learned a lot about the voting public's readiness for change on some issues. The following list may interest you:

• It seems that most voters are ready to support a statewide single-payer health plan. The powerful insurance lobby would put up a strong fight, but I believe a citizen's initiative for universal health coverage could succeed in Washington.

• Voters are poorly informed about how instant run-off voting would work and do not understand its value. We need to do much more public education on this issue.

• Voters also need more education on the implications of corporate campaign funding, although they are impressed by the Green Party's refusal to accept contributions from corporations.

• Most voters realize Washington's tax system is unfair and ineffective, but there appears to be little consensus about how to fix it. Voters might be open to a state income tax under certain conditions, but it will take a lot of education before there is much support for taxes on pollution or user fees for public resources. The exception is tolls for heavily traveled roadways, which many voters seem ready to support.

• Everybody seems to want to get rid of the 60% super-majority requirement for local school funding measures—in fact, that requirement is so unpopular I don't understand why we still have it. Only a few are ready to consider the benefits of free higher education for state residents.

• Helping small businesses is a popular idea, but not many people get excited about family farms. Also, most people don't seem to understand how Washington's revenue structure discourages small businesses and farming operations.

• Almost everyone is concerned about the environment, but concern for specific projects or programs seems limited to the geographic areas specifically affected. Most people want to conserve wild salmon, but many people in the 35th still view environmental protection in terms of "jobs-verses-trees".

With this in mind, I would favor making a statewide single-payer health plan the signature issue for the Green Party for the near future. It's popular; it's something we might actually be able to do, and neither of the major parties is willing to undertake it. We need to keep running candidates. People really like us; it just takes awhile for them to get used to us.

The Washington Mobility Strategy - a new transportation plan

On November 5th, Washington voters rejected Referendum 51, the state government's $7.7 billion dollar transportation package. The Citizens for Real Transportation Solutions (aided by Greens), who campaigned to defeat the referendum, hope to convince the state legislature to adopt a new transportation plan. The new plan proposed by the CRTS is based on these principles.

- start projects you can afford to finish
- prioritize and spend money where it's needed most
- make balanced transportation investments that give people a variety of transportation choices
- make state DOT and other transportation agencies accountable

The alternative plan, the Washington Mobility Strategy, is available at www.no51.org. When the legislature convenes in January 2003, the organization will lobby to persuade legislators to act on the plan, but to be successful, we need strong grassroots support.

To get involved, contact T.J. Johnson at greenthumbs@olywa.net, or 943-4596.

Clean Money Campaign Laws

Although the Republicans captured the majority in Congress this year, it is interesting to note that less than 40% of eligible Americans voted in November's election. Republicans and Democrats each have the support of less than 20% of the voting-age. Even so, more money was spent on campaigning this year than on any other previous non-presidential election. By the time the hard and soft money is added up, campaign fund-raising will have exceeded $1 billion.

Maine and Arizona captured the Spot Light in this year's election. Both held elections based on Clean Money laws. Under this system of full public financing, candidates who collect a large number of small contributions receive a public stipend for their campaigns. They do so under the stipulation that they accept no other campaign money. This is cause for great celebration! Full public financing is the most effective antidote to plutocracy. If two states have embraced this new Clean Money Law, it is a matter of time that more will follow. For Your Guide to the Money in US Elections, please access www.opensecrets.org.

Campus Greens Forming at TESC

When TESC students were offered the opportunity to earn class credit for assisting local political campaigns, many chose to lend Green Party candidate Marilou Rickert support. The students helped with mass mailings, door-to-door campaigning and fundraising. Not only did they learn what it takes to run a campaign — they were instrumental in making it happen - and had a great time doing it. Several students decided to start a Campus Greens chapter as part of the national student movement allied with the Green Party. They are expecting to be recognized next spring with an anticipated fund allocation. For more information or to help out, please contact John Kemp at 867-4092 or Troy Morris at 866-0553.

Calendar of Events

December 15

Peacekeeping Training
Lacey Community Church
4501 -19th Ave SE
1:00 - 5:20 PM.
Glen 491-9093 glen@olywa.net

December 17

Asphalt Plant Hearing to Protect Wildlife Refuge
Thurston County Courthouse, Bldg 1
10 AM
Sue 705-9247

December 18

Green Party Electoral Strategies Working Group
Olympia Library
7 PM
http://www.greenparty-sps.org

KNOW MORE's "Evil-Doer" of the Month

A.B. "Buzzy" Krongard, Executive Director of the CIA

[picture classified]

BIO IN BRIEF

Education: received an A.B. degree with honors from Princeton University in 1958 and a Juris Doctor degree with honors from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1975.

Military: served three years of active duty as an infantry officer in the United States Marine Corps and ended his service as a Captain.

Prior Employment: Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board at Alex, Brown. Upon the merger of Alex. Brown with Bankers Trust Corporation Krongard became Vice Chairman of the Board of Bankers Trust and served in such capacity until joining the CIA.

Awards: named the outstanding executive in the financial services industry in 1995 and 1996 by *Financial World*. In 1997 he received the Golden Plate award from the American Academy of Achievement.

Hobbies: include fox hunting, scuba diving and martial arts in which he holds a black belt and equivalent rankings in several disciplines. He was elected to the Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1981.

Personal: a native of Baltimore, Maryland he resides in Baltimore and McLean, Virginia. He was married to the late Patricia A. Lion and has three adult sons. He's 64 years old.

First act as Executive Director of CIA: abolished the Directorate of Administration, thereby drawing under his immediate control the former DA's five separate offices for in-house management-finance, security, personnel, and the like—long famous for their independence.

Recent quote: "Over and over again, in public testimony and private briefings, we have warned of a major attack by bin Laden…We had the scope correct. We missed the means."

Nancy West

Mighty suspicious—that's what I'd say it is. Remember right after 9-11 we learned that some unknown individuals were set to make some real big bucks. It came out and very quickly disappeared from the "news" that there had been a huge increase in "put" options, as well as shorts on United and American airlines stock. Basically this means that these stock buyers were "betting" that the stock for these two airlines would soon take a big drop in value. This also suggests that someone had advance knowledge of the coming attacks. When UAL and American were the two airline carriers involved in the WTC disaster, these trades suggested that maybe there was a little insider trading going on. Unfortunately for these guys, the stock market closed for four days and they were unable to get their hands on the ill-gotten gains before what they had done became known. Information on whether these 2.5 million dollars in profits have ever been collected did not turn up in the research for this article. I don't know what the odds are that so many people may have decided all at once to take these kinds of trades on these two particular stocks, but it sure does seem suspicious, doesn't it? It's also interesting that this whole incident has disappeared from the media. Nobody seems to want to know more about what went on here. The "investigative" talents of our corporate media are being drawn toward other more urgent and politically correct issues, such as Saddam's nuclear prowess.

So, how does all of this tie in with our "evildoer of the month"? Degrees of separation, or lack thereof that is, between our Executive Director of the CIA and the company that performed the trades. Our "evildoer", A.B. "Buzzy" Krongard was, until 1998, the head of A.B. Brown, the firm where the trades were made. When he left A.B. Brown and after also being a longtime CIA consultant, he joined the Central Intelligence Agency in a full-time capacity as counsel to CIA Director George Tenet. In March of 2001 he was promoted by the "President" to Executive Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the CIA's third highest ranking position. It is important to note that the CIA has long monitored such trades in real time as a means of tracking potential threats of terrorist attacks and anything else that might be detrimental to the health of the economy.

When the interrelationships between the banking and brokerage world and the CIA are understood, it becomes obvious why so many suspicions were aroused as to the possibility of an officer in the highest level of the U.S. government taking advantage of inside knowledge and personal and business connections. Krongard is not the first high-level government official to have careers that encompassed both the financial and intelligence world—Bill Casey, Reagans's CIA Director and Nixon's Chairman of the SEC and John Deutch, Clinton's CIA Director and currently a Citigroup Board member, to name only two. In fact, as Krongard himself explains it, the OSS, predecessor to the current day CIA, "was really nothing but Wall Street bankers and lawyers."

This suspicious incident will fade away because the corporate media are too busy beating the drums of war, the people are too busy looking over their shoulders for the bogeyman.

The people may never know who placed those trades because this suspicious incident, as do so many other suspicious incidents, will just fade away. It will fade away because the corporate media are too busy beating the drums of war, the people are too busy looking over their shoulders for the bogeyman and the independent investigators who are trying to find the truth are labeled lefty, liberal conspiracy nuts and are just ignored. And the rest of us are left to ponder our suspicions. ◆

Know More's Tip of the Month

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or

"Who really shot JFK?"

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Past And Present
Mouthpiece For The U.S. Military

Daniel Landin

With the popular media as their lone tool the Bush Administration is rallying the support of tens of millions of Americans for its war on Iraq. Since reporting on the current conflict with Iraq is undoubtedly controlled by the Pentagon, as was the 1990-91Persian Gulf War, we as Americans should accept the omission of facts and policies in the news as a daily standard, and educate ourselves as we choose.

Average TV viewers are unaware that Human Rights Watch and other human rights groups hold Saddam Hussein *and* the United States guilty of the sustained human atrocities in Iraq. Yet the Bush Administration continually preaches of its righteousness, and lays sole blame on the Iraqi government.

The Second Front, by John MacArthur, is one of many diligently researched books to examine the government's systematic control of media coverage during the Persian Gulf War. According to MacArthur *The New York Times* reported in May 1991 on a secret document called Annex Foxtrot. Written by navy captain Ron Wildermuth, it bluntly stated a prevailing rule for media coverage of Operation Desert Shield. "News media representatives will be escorted at all times. Repeat, at all times."

According to the *Times* report the policy within Foxtrot was conceived by the most senior officials of the first Bush Administration "to manage the information flow in a way that supported the operation's political goals and avoided the perceived mistakes of Vietnam." This refers to the 'mistake' of Americans receiving too honest a picture of the conflict in Vietnam via the news media, which has taken the blame for the 'loss' of that war. Since then the U.S. government has developed journalism-squashing methods to avoid disruption of their war plans.

The Department of Defense National Media Pool became the only auspices under which a reporter could receive a visa to Saudi Arabia, the U.S. ally in the region serving as the gateway to Iraq and Kuwait for American troops and reporters alike. News organizations initially complained to the Pentagon that too few representatives were offered entrance to make acceptable, accurate coverage possible. Oddly they did not fight the issue of being funneled into the DOD media pool, which would entirely disable them from being journalists and essentially make them a multitude of mouthpieces for the U.S. military.

A memo from their Pentagon spokesperson, Pete Williams, about eventually being freed from the pool is a blatant contradiction and barely stirred the major news organizations. "The pools would be disbanded and all media would operate independently, although under U.S. Central Command escort." (MacArthur 28)

Stirring the Pot

Prior to the U.S. 'commitment to save Kuwait' the fabricated story of a girl called Naira surfaced. The 15-year-old spoke in front of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus – which was *not* a committee of the U.S. Congress - describing the horrors she witnessed while volunteering at a hospital in Kuwait called al-Addan. A very emotive, repulsive image of babies being ripped from incubators saturated the public airwaves via Naira's testimony. This tremendous campaign was implemented by the American P.R. firm Hill &Knowlton, hired by the Kuwaiti Royal Family – under the organization Citizens for a Free Kuwait.

Notwithstanding abundant evidence tracing the falsity of this story, six members of Congress and George Bush Sr. incanted the girl's false testimony days before Congress approved the war resolution to defend Kuwait. It is argued that this public relations initiative was deliberately used to sway public opinion enough for Congress to support the resolution.

Until Americans claim responsibility to educate ourselves about the initiatives that our government represents with force in the world, they will continue to be carried out in our name.

Keeping The Soup 'Just Right'

Since Vietnam government policy makes explicit use of media tactics to shape public opinion about war. In 1983 U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander Arthur A. Humphries, "public affairs specialist" for the Navy was eager to illustrate "...how to make certain that government policy is not undermined by the way a war is reported." He wrote, "to effect or help assure 'favorable objectivity,' you must be able to exclude certain correspondents from the battle zone."

His feelings about the nature of what people receive on TV screens are particularly revealing. He explains that Americans seeing images of soldiers in action, which obviously includes being "wounded or maimed", is very likely "to erode their support for their government's war aims." *Second Front* explains in detail the massive advancements in graphic design that the television networks implemented to fill in the huge blanks that were their lack of film of the fighting.

Further Humphries states "If you want to maintain popular support for a war, your side must not be seen as ruthless barbarians..." In turn, the other side must. The Naira story succeeded at this in 1990, probably more than its architects imagined.

The Omission of U.S. Guilt

The combination of a full scale bombing offensive and economic sanctions has had blinding results, unless they have been completely unseen. President Bush obsesses on Saddam Hussein's wickedness drowning any discussion of sanctions. The news has been riddled daily with the latest arguments over language of a new U.N. resolution to bring weapons inspectors into Iraq. Now that the resolution passed, the front page reads, "In Blunt Words Bush Threatens Hussein Again" (NY Times, 11/21/2002) All we hear about is this policy debate and related rhetoric.

We don't receive any information about what the economic sanctions are, or about the more than a dozen U.N. organizations currently in Iraq to provide aide for the people there. We don't learn that these organizations, which are falling short in their provisions despite great efforts, are needed to circumvent the restrictions that the sanctions present in rebuilding Iraq's infrastructure. This is the U.N. – under U.S. pressure - wasting tremendous energy fixing problems that it is causing – on top of which Bush is lobbying to release more tremendous military might and destruction!

The United Nations

In August 1991, at a meeting of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights Warren A. J. Hamerman, a delegate of the International Progress Organization stated in a deeply worried tone,

A grave and systematic violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms is being carried out against the entire population of Iraq, in form and dimensions without precedent...That such a policy be carried out on the basis of decisions made by a U.N. organ is unprecedented in the history of the U.N., as it involves a total boycott, following the deliberate destruction of Iraq's infrastructure.

By 1999, direct challenges to the entrenched policy of sanctions against Iraq were not found at the U.N. Even those witnessing the suffering and toiling to end it needed to qualify their statements. Take the UNICEF report from Baghdad on August 16, 1999 stating, "UNICEF as a member of the UN family recognizes that sanctions are an instrument used by the international community to promote peace and security." The same report later states "UNICEF has voiced its concern repeatedly that if sanctions are to be implemented they should be implemented in such a way as to not have a negative impact on children. This is not the case in Iraq...What is of real importance is the trends - which are clear. Children under 5 years of age are dying at more than twice the rate they were ten years ago."

Prior to the Gulf War 90% of Iraqis enjoyed potable water, and 70% of Iraq's food was imported. (WHO) The U.N. sanctions outlined in U.N. resolution 661 severed all lines of trade and economy through which that food arrived in Iraq prior to the war. The bombing was harsh on farmland and transport routes, lowering the agricultural yield below the 30% of national need prior to the war. The entire country then impossibly depended on this small portion.

This lack of nutrition leads to an acute increase in malnutrition and related diseases. According to a WHO report from 1996, *The Health Conditions of the Population in Iraq Since the Gulf Crisis,* 8,903 children under the age of 5 died in 1990. The number of dead in 1994 rose to 52,905. Can we begin to fathom the horror that this many families has been forced to endure?

Can we ignore the fact that this many families and their friends have distaste for America after U.S. planes bombed their water treatment facilities, many of which remain debilitated to this day because of clearly deliberate U.S. pressure at the United Nations. (Cool *War*, Harpers Magazine) Most Americans cannot, because our information source – the mainstream media – does not inform us.

We also don't learn that during the Gulf War the Western militaries destroyed Iraq's infrastructure, including the electricity grid, sewage treatment facilities, communications centers, date and powdered milk factories, as well as most large cylos that stored large amounts of food.

It was not until 1997 with the Oil-For-Food Program that *any* food legally entered the country, as the first barrels of oil were exported in December 1996. (Office of the Iraq Programme). In 1999 with resolution 1266 the Security Council "recognized the earlier shortfalls and permitted Iraq to export an additional $3 billion worth of oil," expressing the tremendous deficiency in food nine years after the UN sanctions were initially imposed.

There is no space for our news analysts to represent this utter dread for Iraqis while the Bush Administration is busy finagling a completely spotless American image, untainted by any wrongdoing or drive for oil profits (another bag completely). And so Bush Sr., Clinton, and now Bush Jr, have all stood atop Administrations that have denied the horrible results that the Economic Sanctions are an essential cause of, simply casting on the Iraqi government.

We get no sense that to launch a military campaign on Iraq again will be dropping the pieces of a shattered clay pot on a concrete floor. In America we are taught to believe that we have no responsibility, because the Iraqi leader is so contemptible. The Bush Administration is disturbingly successful at averting all attention away from the findings of experts that implicate the U.S. and the U.N. sanctions policy as a clear cause of genuine atrocities in Iraq – problems absent prior to the Gulf War.

Until Americans claim responsibility to educate ourselves about the initiatives that our government represents with force in the world, they will continue to be carried out in our name while we stay tuned to TV news and the papers, as we did in 1990-91. ◆

GAZA

Don't Stay if America Attacks Iraq

Chris Allert

"Don't stay in Gaza if America attacks Iraq." This was the advice of nearly everyone I spoke with. My friends in Gaza, my friends in America -- they all have my best interests at heart. They thought I would be safer in America. Maybe they are right. And now I am back.

I'm not sure exactly why they don't want me to be in Gaza at the time of an American attack on Iraq. My friends in America know that an attack on Iraq will destabilize the entire middle east. Anything could happen. Maybe they worry about me being an a place where anything could happen. My friends in Gaza know what the occupying Israeli army does when the world's attention is somewhere else. They know that even my American passport won't protect me from bombs falling from the sky. But I never asked my friends exactly why they thought it would be best for me to leave.

And I'm not sure exactly why I did leave when I did. I guess it was because I wanted to, because Gaza is a very difficult and depressing place to be. The shock of entering the gaza strip for the first time is nothing like the shock of leaving it for the first time, which I did back in July when I needed to renew my tourist visa. They ran my bag through the metal detector, but they didn't search it. They didn't ask me why I had been in gaza for so long. They didn't ask me what I was doing there. They didn't ask me anything. I caught a taxi on the other side of the crossing (I hadn't figured out the bus system yet). I told the driver that I had been in Gaza for three months, that life was very bad there. He laughed. I'm not sure why. He was a Palestinian with Israeli Citizenship (I've never seen any Jewish taxi drivers at the parking lot of the crossing to Gaza). Maybe he thought it was funny that I would be shocked by such an ordinary thing like life in Gaza. I'll never know why he laughed because I didn't ask him.

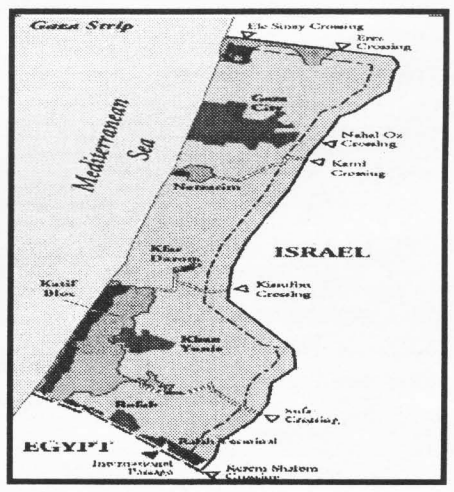
When I left Gaza at the end of October, it wasn't really a shock because I had been through it so many times before, and because I was so happy to be going home.

Back in April I was supposed to leave and I didn't. Earlier that month the world's attention was on the destruction of the Jenin refugee camp. Ariel Sharon was threatening to invade Gaza. Everyone believed that Sharon had a strong desire to do something unthinkable to the Jibaliya refugee camp in the north of Gaza, a strong desire to make an example of the birthplace of the first Intifada. Six of us waited in Jibaliya for about two weeks. Eventually everyone in my group had to go back home and return to their jobs and their bills. But I had already missed my return flight, had no job to return to, and didn't know what to expect when I crossed back into Israel.

Now everyone I've talked to expects that when America invades Iraq, something terrible will happen in Rafah, the prison within a prison at the southernmost edge of the Gaza Strip.

I kept thinking that if we had a permanent presence of international activists in the Gaza Strip it wouldn't be so difficult to respond in some way to the large-scale invasion when it finally did happen. There are nearly 300 million Americans. Why should it be so difficult to find a handful of them to spend a long time in the Gaza Strip to wait for the inevitable invasion? The borders will almost certainly close by the time an invasion is in progress, but if we were already there waiting, surely that would be useful.

A friend of mine in Jibaliya said that



the waiting was the worst part, that eventually we would all be begging the Israelis to hurry up and invade, because at least then we wouldn't have to wait any longer. I never learned to share this sentiment. I always thought that I would rather be waiting for a terrible thing to happen than experiencing it. But I suppose this viewpoint is easier to hold when you know that you always have the option of leaving the place where the terrible thing is about to happen.

Now everyone I've talked to expects that when America invades Iraq, something terrible will happen in Rafah, the prison within a prison at the southernmost edge of the Gaza Strip. This is where most of the recent "retaliatory" attack on the gaza strip have been. The Israeli officials say that these strikes on Rafah are justified. Rafah, a place that is often closed off from the rest of the Gaza strip by Israeli road blocks, a place from which there is absolutely no chance of potential suicide bombers originating since the border of the Gaza Strip is so tightly controlled, Rafah, they say needs to be attack because it is a hotbed of Islamic extremism and operations against Israel are planned here, or if not explicitly planned, they are at least condoned here. (I won't bother citing a source on this since you can simply turn on CNN any day of the week to hear this viewpoint from Israeli officials).

To the best of my knowledge, there are no international activists waiting in Rafah right now for the invasion. I will be going there in mid-January. I hope I won't be too late. ◆

Six Questions That Will Never Be Asked About Iraq

1) **Why is it that those who never wore a uniform and are confident that they won't have to personally fight this ware are more anxious for this war than our generals?**
2) **Is it not true that the constitutional power to declare war is exclusively that of the Congress? Should presidents, contrary to the Constitution, allow Congress to concur only when pressured by public opinion? Are presidents permitted to rely on the UN for permission to go to war?**
3) **Why don't those who want war bring a formal declaration of war resolution to the floor of Congress?**
4) **Where does the constitution grant us permission to wage war for any reason other than self-defense?**
5) **Are we prepared for possibly thousands of American casualties in a war against a country that does not have the capacity to attack the U.S?**
6) **Is it not true that preventative war is synonymous with an act of aggression, and has never been considered a moral or legitimate U.S policy?**

***Addison Wiggins 14-15, 2002, *The Daily Reckoning*, Attributed to Texas Congressman Ron Paul's office**

What is W.I.P. about?

Works In Progress is a 12-year old alternative newspaper in Olympia and Thurston County. WIP challenges the corporate media by remaining committed to confronting oppression and encouraging action around issues of economic, social, and environmental justice.

WIP is not a 501C3 nonprofit. WIP does not pay any of its workers, because we don't have a means to. We are a dozen or so volunteers that do everything from collect and write articles, do layout, paste-up, sell advertising, proofread, distribute, make mailing labels, fold & stamp issues for mailing, and replenish distribution sites.

Please consider that each issue costs roughly $500[00] to produce. WIP also mails 20 free subscriptions to incarcerated people and has other bills to pay such as for toner cartridges, disks, gas money, paper, PO Box rental, etc. Please donate money if you support alternative media, our mission, or the paper you hold in your hands.

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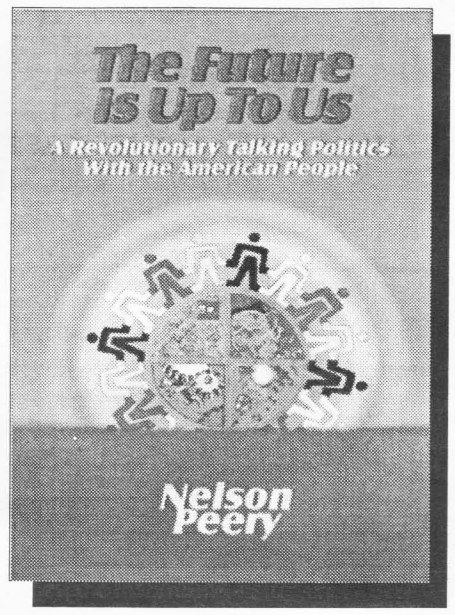
The Future is Up to Us

A Revolutionary Talking Politics with the American People



Dave Zink

The Future is Up to Us: A Revolutionary Talking Politics with the American People ***by Nelson Peery. (Speakers for a New America Books, Chicago, 2002)***

Nelson Peery's new book challenges doctrine long held dear by many would-be revolutionaries.

After his memoir, ***Black Fire: the Making of an American Revolutionary***, was published in 1994, Peery toured the country on a series of speaking engagements. He was interviewed, was featured on talk shows, and spoke with thousands of people about how changes in the means of production are setting the stage for far-reaching political and social change. ***The Future is Up to Us*** is a result of those conversations.

Many asked Peery why there hasn't been any decisive working-class uprising against capitalism in the USA yet. Working class consciousness, an essential requirement for revolution, was comparatively high during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Organized labor won the Wagner Labor Relations Act, which legalized the workers' right to organize into unions. Membership in the Socialist and Communist Parties was higher in the 1930's than it is today.

There were some militant strikes in the 1930s, including the Minneapolis Teamsters' Strike and the Sit-Down strikes in Flint, Michigan, which affected nearly everybody to some extent in those cities. In the 1960s, social consciousness ran high, and the anti-war and civil rights struggles rocked America. If an American socialist revolution failed to occur in the 1930s, or in the 1960s, then how can we expect it to happen in the 2000s?

Peery answers this question from a dogma-challenging perspective. He says these earlier struggles failed to develop into a revolution because the objective foundation for a communist society (the technological ability to produce and distribute an abundance of the necessities of life for all) wasn't yet in existence, and the subjective factor – a popular vision of an alternative, socialist society - wasn't widespread enough.

In the system of industrial production developed before the introduction of high technology, workers sell their labor power, produce commodities or services, earn a paycheck, and spend their money buying what they need. The introduction of high technology is changing all this. We are now in the midst of an economic revolution – a qualitative shift in the means of production from electro-mechanical machinery to electronics, computers, and robotics. Robots produce, but don't buy or sell anything. The manufacturing jobs being eliminated by high tech far outnumber the jobs being created for software writers and computer designers.

In the same amount of time that fifty industrial workers could produce five cars, computers can produce fifty cars with five workers. Competing with robots, flesh-and-blood workers cannot produce enough value for the owners to equal their wages, so they get laid off. Goods produced at lower costs with high technology are increasingly flooding the market, but are becoming unavailable to growing numbers of people. More and more people don't have enough money to buy the products they need.

The social problems that are exploding today – drug abuse, crime, and homelessness – are a result of an increase in poverty, caused by growing unemployment created by the new, labor-replacing technology. The old system is being disrupted, Peery says, and as robots become more common, the disruption will continue until the old system no longer works.

In the "developed" world, workers are displaced by electronics and condemned to poverty.

In the "developed" world, workers are displaced by electronics and condemned to poverty. There aren't enough new jobs to absorb those left out to dry by the shrinking industrial base in America. Most jobs in the service industry pay only a fraction of what workers earned in the lost manufacturing jobs. Meanwhile, in the "third world", labor is worked to death in sweatshops at starvation wages trying to compete against the high-tech developed world.

Peery isn't the only one to critique modern capitalism and conclude that living labor cannot compete with robots for long. In this, he finds himself in company with even such establishment papers as the *Wall Street Journal*. What distinguishes Perry's critique is what he infers from this reality about the distribution of goods in such a society.

How are workers driven out of the labor market supposed to cope? Putting it simply, Peery says that if production is increasingly carried on without wages, by robots, then the means of life will have to be distributed without money. Growing demands will strike at the heart of the old, capitalist system. This spells the historic end of capitalism.

Like most people who consider themselves revolutionary socialists, I believe that the primary struggle today is between the working class ("proletariat") and the elite minority that controls the economy and makes the command decisions via its ownership of the major means of production. According to this view, the working class is the only class having both the strategic position in the system of production and the numbers necessary to make it a revolutionary class. Peery challenges that conventional view.

What is "Revolution" anyway?

According to Peery, revolution is a historical process by which a subordinate class overthrows the ruling class and establishes a new political system that is in synch with the new economic and social realities. He outlines the three stages that every revolution has gone through:

1. changes in technology bring about an economic revolution in the means of production,
2. changes in the economy force changes in society—a social revolution, then
3. changes in society cause a political revolution.

These three stages are not chronologically discrete. They overlap in time. We are currently witnessing the rapid development of stage one and the beginnings of stage two.

A revolution does not, and cannot, come simply from the will of the people. There must also be material reasons rooted in the economy. Historically, enough people to ensure success of a revolution will only support revolutionary activity when they perceive that "the system doesn't work anymore". America hasn't reached that stage yet. Capitalism is perceived by most people to be working unfairly and unevenly, but it **is** still perceived to be working.

Peery draws some lessons from an earlier economic and social transition: the death of feudalism and the birth of capitalism. The major classes under feudalism were the nobility, who owned the land, and the serfs, who supplied the labor. Occasional serf rebellions were ruthlessly smashed. At most, they reformed the system to varying degrees. None of them resulted in the overthrow of feudalism. Why not?

Peery says that a class that is an integral part of a system can *reform* that system, but cannot overthrow it. In order to overthrow a system, you need a force that is *outside* the system. The nobility didn't end feudalism. The serfs fought not to overthrow the feudal order, but to improve their lot *within* it.

It was the rising capitalist class (the "bourgeoisie") and the new, unlanded industrial wage-working class – classes outside of and alien to feudal system - that overthrew the old order and the agrarian system it stood upon. These classes formed around a new means of production totally alien to feudalism: industrial machinery. Those were the agents that brought in a new system, capitalism.

Today, people who must work for a living, and their families, make up the vast majority of society. The class that owns the major means of financing, production, and distribution, and dominates society because of that ownership, constitutes about 3% of society. Together, these are the two main social components of the capitalist system, just as the peons and the baronage were the two main classes of the feudal system. Attempts to empower workers against capitalists end up as reforming the system, just as attempts to increase the power of the serfs reformed, but didn't overthrow, feudalism.

Well before the advent of the computer and the robot, labor-saving devices already created problems due to automation displacing labor. This comparatively limited automation benefited the capitalist class, but often meant unemployment and insecurity for workers. The advent of high tech has a geometric impact. We are now talking about not just labor-*saving* devices, but labor-**replacing** technology.

Peery accepts the historic Marxist tenet that revolution comes as a result of changes in the means of production. Contradictions develop between new, emerging economic realities and the political relations within the old society. The result is an economic collapse. As the economy collapses, it drags down society. The corporate media has people so confused that most of us think social disintegration is the cause of the problem, rather than the result.

Society is straining to reorganize itself on the basis of the developing high-tech means of production and distribution. It can't quite do so due to the limitations of the system of private property, which is

(continued next page)

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(Future, continued)

at the foundation of the capitalist order. The private ownership of the major means of production and distribution prevents the development of the robot to its fullest extent. The government is fighting the social effects of electronics by helping corporations create low-paid jobs to offset the mass unemployment that would follow a greater utilization of robots.

Today we are witnessing, and are likely to be part of, the formation of a new caste that is being created by robotic technology. This section of the working class is composed of the temporary employed, permanently unemployed, and permanently poor people. Economists call this "structural unemployment" because it is part of the emerging economy. It cannot be eliminated because it is *built into* the system. This rapidly growing element finds itself increasingly outside of capital/labor relationships. Being outside the system, they have the possibility and eventually the *necessity* of overthrowing it and bringing in a new system based on their needs – and reorganize society along lines that make sense and are in synch with the new electronic and robotic means of production.

Proliferation of robotic technology has also given birth to a new section of the owning class. The very nature of electronics demands internationalism. A class of trans-national corporate financiers is necessary to stabilize a global corporate system. A world market is the only kind of market that a robot can operate within. If robots operated in a national market, it would flood that market overnight. Robotic technology is the spur that brought about corporate globalization, and globalization is the spur that is driving the trend to increasing use of robot technology.

The economic foundation of our current society is the production of value, which is based upon the expenditure of labor and the extraction of *surplus value*. Surplus value is value produced by labor that is above what workers receive in the form of wages or salaries plus benefits. Money is merely the expression of value. The appropriation of surplus value by the capitalist is the source of profit and capital. This is what makes capitalism, capitalism.

The robot is undermining this value system. The whole economic structure is being revamped. The new unemployment is a symptom of the destruction of this system, signaling an end of the age of the buying and selling of labor power, which characterizes the capitalist system. Now, large numbers of producers (robots) are no longer consuming, and burgeoning numbers of consumers (people) are no longer producing – nor earning a paycheck.

Robots can make cars, but they don't buy them. They don't earn a paycheck, and they don't buy the commodities they need with it. They're totally outside the surplus value-creation and wage relationships of capitalism. Since production is increasingly carried on without human labor, without creating any surplus value, such production can't be logically distributed according to money.

(to be concluded in the next issue of *Works in Progress*) ◆

Up Front

Trouble Ahead

Jerome Johnson

Sundown was at my house on election night, watching the news with me. As the night wore on and Republicans kept winning all over the country, I thought he'd get upset--most progressives I know were fuming--but he was oddly calm. "Hell, I don't know why everyone's acting all shocked," he said. "Didn't take a rocket scientist to figure this. Only question is, who's in more trouble--us here in America or the Iraqis.

"Knew the Republicans would win. On every issue--taxes, health, whatever--they just holler '9/11!' and keep scaring everyone to death. Then they say, 'Only us strong, patriotic Republicans can save you.' The whole thing's pretty ironic."

How so?

"Well, take Iraq, for example. Remember when Congress made all kinds of noises about being the part of Government that decides if we go to war or not? Well, all those so-called Democrats promptly lined up and rubber stamped the resolution he gave 'em, asking for authority to fight if he isn't satisfied with the UN inspections. Yet he had the nerve to badmouth the Iraqi Parliament when it refuted the UN's authority, citing Iraqi sovereignty--he even called it a 'rubber stamp' for Saddam."

Well, maybe the Democrats really believed that Iraq is dangerous.

"Hah! The Democrats believed that they'd lose their seats if voters thought they were 'soft' on Iraq. So instead, they got soft on their principles and and their role as loyal opposition. The voters saw right through it and voted 'em out anyway."

The president says that he hopes we don't have a war, but Iraq must get rid of its weapons of mass destruction.

"Bullshit," Sundown said cheerfully. "He's wanted war with Iraq ever since the campaign, because he wants revenge on Saddam for trying to kill his father, Bush Sr. He wants a 'successful' war to show the world that America is back--fully recovered from Vietnam and Somalia--and ready to take its 'rightful place' in ruling the world. The planners say they can fight the war this winter and win it by spring--just in time for the '04 presidential race. Nothing like a war for a campaign--Dubya knows he has to win this one legitimately. He has to actually get the most votes this time.

"And don't tell me about weapons of mass destruction. What about North Korea? Unlike Iraq, we know for a fact that THEY have nuclear weapons. We know because they came right out and admitted it. If Dubya's as worried about weapons of mass destruction as he claims, why ain't he beating the war drums for North Korea?"

It does seem inconsistent.

"Damned right it is, and I'll tell you why. Because the North Koreans have millions of tough, disciplined troops thirty miles from Seoul, and we only have 35,000. Another war with North Korea would be very long and very bloody, and there's no guarantee we'd win it. Best we could get the last time was a stalemate, remember?

"Not only that, the other countries in the area--Japan, South Korea--would never go for it. And most important, the North Koreans don't have any oil and Iraq has more oil than anyone except Saudi Arabia."

It's going to get so bad that the people in this country are going to be forced into consciousness, something like the '60s.

The president says the war wouldn't be for oil.

"Yeah, right. Think about it. Bush is an oilman and so is Cheney, and most of his cabinet members are from Big Business in general and Big Oil in particular. After the war, the US occupies Iraq and controls its oil. Dubya's and Cheney's friends in Bechtel and Halliburton and all those other big companies can make a lot of money from the contracts they'll get to repair the war damage. Money which can flow into Republican coffers for the '04 campaign. Oil which flows back to the US, cheap, and lots of it. Then Dubya gets up and tells a cheering America that not only have we 'liberated' Iraq, we've 'made our source of energy more secure'. We can tell the Saudis to kiss off, since we still blame them for 9/11 and despise them like all the rest of the Arabs. More cheers, flags waving. Oh, I can see those GOP commercials now."

But they say that Colin Powell may have prevented a war by doing so well at the UN.

Sundown grunted and reached for another taco. "Powell didn't prevent anything. Everyone's crowing about his 'victory' over Rummy and the hawks in the administration. Well, Powell didn't get a victory, he got a delay. The delay is just fine with the hawks for two reasons. One, it makes them look sane and reasonable when we know they aren't. Two, it gives them more time to arm, prepare resources and so on so that they don't have to rush to get ready for the Iraq war. They're taking their time, they want to do it right."

Some folks are saying that war could cost $300 million or more, and the economy's already in trouble.

He nodded. "Another irony. I can't wait to see how they pay for a war while they keep cutting taxes. But then, this is the 'CEO administration,' and we've seen how, ah, 'creative' CEOs can be with other people's money."

But what about Afghanistan? bin Laden is still at large.

"What about it? Every time someone asks that question, they just kill an al-Quaida guy by remote control and make sure that it gets in the news, so we'll think they're doing something about terrorism. Or they'll capture some guy and hold him overseas somewhere, where they can interrogate him without bothering about the few civil liberties we have left.

"And now we have the Department of Homeland Security. The people who railed against Big Government have made it even bigger than ever. Big Brother is more like it. Now they can read our mail and email, follow our travel arrangements, look at our bank accounts, tap our phones, monitor our homes and businesses and anything else they want, all without a warrant. You know it's bad when even Bill Safire is scared."

It seems pretty Orwellian.

"Oh, it is. It is." He ate another taco, chewing thoughtfully. "A while ago you wondered why I'm so calm. I'll tell you, old buddy. It's going to get so bad that the people in this country are going to be forced into consciousness, something like the '60s. Things'll get better -- if we make it, that is."

Somewhere in the world, Osama bin Laden is still at large.

In India, Bengalese recover from a cyclone.

In Ivory Coast, uneasy peace negotiations continue.

In Washington, DC, Nancy Pelosi takes up a new job.

And in Olympia, conscientious citizens demonstrate for peace. ◆

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Goldwater's Ghost in the Voting Machines?

Thom Hartmann

Computers in the electoral process started in 1964, the year Goldwater opposed Johnson for the presidency. Back then, though, when states bought computers to read punch-card votes, the states owned and operated the computers, and the electorate could thus examine their processes and results. Even Barry Goldwater, ever suspicious of the creeping power of government, approved: the process was relatively transparent.

But in the past two years, things have radically changed. True conservatives (as opposed to the corporate shills found today in both parties and the media) are as horrified by today's situation as are progressives.

It turns out that the computer-controlled, modem-connected voting machines hastily rushed into many states in the wake of 2000, are the property of, and operated by, private corporations.

It turns out that the computer-controlled, modem-connected voting machines hastily rushed into many states in the wake of 2000, are the property of, and operated by, private corporations. And some of those corporations have apparently told We, The People that we have no right to inspect their machines' innards, no freedom to audit their processes, and no ability to determine why their results are so dramatically at variance with our exit polls that in 2002 our polling companies had to sit down, shut up, and scratch their heads in bewilderment.

As Bev Harris of www.talion.com and Steven Hertzberg of www.votewatch.us have documented, this private, corporate takeover of the voting process at the very core of democracy raises disturbing issues about who controls the fate and future of our nation.

Barry Goldwater summarized the context of this issue well.

"In the beginning we were thirteen colonies perched precariously along the Atlantic seaboard," he wrote in his 1979 autobiography, With No Apologies. "We had no army. We had no navy. We had no manufacturing capacity. We had no wealth. What we did have was the belief that God intended men to be free, and on the strength of that belief we challenged the greatest commercial and military power in the world. In times of tribulation we have found among the people leaders - uncommon men whose understanding, whose courage, whose devotion to the Republic lifted us up to meet the challenge. They promised us nothing more than a chance to retain our freedom, to preserve the Republic, to continue this most noble experiment."

We may still have a chance to continue America's noble experiment, but only if we understand its history and change course quickly.

When humans moved from living tribally to living in "civilization," where populations grew beyond the point where everybody knew everybody else and decision-making could be done by consensus, we arrived at a turning point. We needed leaders, people who would devote their lives to serving the public interest, while setting aside self-interest and personal ambition. It was a dicey proposition, grounded in tribal values but applicable to modern city/states. And it took a long time to emerge.

In the 6000-year history of civilization, three earlier types of leaders had emerged before democracy arrived on the scene.

The first were warlords like Gilgamesh, who ruled by their willingness to use terror and violence. We find the remnants of their rule in the dungeons of British castles and the palaces of Middle Eastern kingdoms.

The second were theocrats who claimed their god or gods had given them the right to rule. We hear the remnants of their rule echoing in Osama's still-fresh anger over the Crusades, and a right-wing Christian leader's claim that 911 was his god's way of punishing America for not listening to him and his.

The third were aristocrats and plutocrats who ruled by the Calvinist and neo-Darwinist claim that great wealth was a sign from gods or nature of a moral worthiness and destiny to rule. We find the remnants of their rule in the now-empty desk that Ken Lay had in the White House, and the history of feudalism in Europe and Japan.

But, as Goldwater notes, although "Freedom is a fragile thing," it's also true that, "Nowhere is it written that freedom must succumb to slavery."

Thus came the Athenian Greeks, with their 200+ year experiment in democracy, and then, two millennia later, Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, and the other Founders with the idea of trying it again. It was the noble experiment of creating a government whose leaders drew their power, their legitimacy, and their authority solely from the consent of the governed. Rule by "We, the People." Tested by other nations, by civil war, and by economic disasters, it seemed at once fragile and powerful. It was an experiment that, while young and unproven on the grand stage of civilization, just might succeed in outlasting its Greek progenitors. The basis of its strength was "the consent of the people."

But in 1886, the consent of the people was stolen. A bizarre distortion of the Santa Clara Supreme Court decision by the Court's reporter led to corporations claiming that they were also entitled to the human rights laid out for We, The People in the Bill of Rights and the free-the-slaves Fourteenth Amendment. They claimed, even though the Supreme Court had explicitly not ruled it, that they had won the rights of humans: corporate personhood.

Unions wouldn't get those rights (and still don't have them), nor would churches or associations or family-owned businesses, and not even governments would ever have those rights (because the Bill of Rights was explicitly intended as a weapon for fragile humans to use to hold back the potentially repressive powers inherent in any government), but corporations exclusively, the Court's reporter said, would share them with humans.

Thus, our largest corporations have now claimed the First Amendment right of free speech, and captured control of our airwaves and many of our politicians. They've claimed the Fourth Amendment right of privacy, and tell us we can't inspect their voting machines that determine the fate of our democracy. They've claimed the Fourteenth Amendment right to be free of discrimination, and tell local communities they have no right to nurture small, local businesses while "discriminating against" predatory multinational corporations.

And so now, as a handful of the world's largest corporations are working hard and fast to seal the capture of a government that was once the property of We, The People, we Americans find ourselves at a crossroads. From the Bush administration's plan to replace 850,000 government employees with private, unaccountable-to-the-people corporate contractors, to the turning of our voting apparatus over to private corporations accountable only to their officers and stockholders, to the overwhelming influence large corporations have over our elected representatives through their "free speech" campaign cash, we face a stark choice.

Do we want elected representatives making the decisions on which turn the quality of our lives and our freedoms, or shall we hand these to private corporations? And if we do choose elected representatives to truly represent us - making decisions on behalf of We, The People - then how do we make sure they're responding to the desires and needs of citizen/voters and not the corporations and their front groups that have claimed the First Amendment right to fund them?

Part of the answer must be to return human rights to humans, reversing the theft of human rights perpetrated in 1886 by the reporter of the Supreme Court. Corporations, like government and all other forms of human association, have privileges granted by We, The People, but not rights. Rights are solely the domain of humans.

But the largest of our corporations say otherwise. They say they can take control of our electoral process by controlling our voting machines, in defiance of a constitution that gives this responsibility solely to an elected government. They say they can take control of our airwaves, in defiance of the free press provision of the First Amendment and tradition of government administration of the commons for the benefit of all citizens. They say they can spend hundreds of millions of dollars every two years to influence both public opinion and the votes of our elected representatives.

"We have arrived at our present position of peril in the world and at home because our leaders have refused to tell us the truth," Goldwater said in his memoirs. He added, "If the Republic is to survive, we must find and follow new leaders."

Another conservative Arizona Senator, John McCain, echoed those sentiments in a July 11, 2002 speech. "Threats to our greatness come not just from foreign enemies and alien ideologies that hold our ideals in contempt," he told the National Press Club. "They also come from those few among us who perceive their self-interest as separate from the interests of our society, who in their selfish pursuits abjure the values of honesty, fairness and patriotism, and threaten to damage the very trust that makes freedom work."

It's time for America to return to the core value that is embraced by true patriots of every political stripe: that humans have rights and all other human-created institutions have privileges, and that those privileges are granted, and revocable, by individual human voters.

Ending the doctrine of corporate personhood will enable us to restore constitutional democracy to our republic, and restore the power of governance to We, The People. It will set the stage to return to us our electoral process and voting machines. And it may put Goldwater's ghost back to rest.

Thom Hartmann is the author of "Unequal Protection: The Rise of Corporate Dominance and the Theft of Human Rights," and "The Last Hours of Ancient Sunlight." www.thomhartmann.com ◆

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"Just a splash from Heritage Fountain & Capitol Lake"

(Police, continued)

mentally ill man named Kent DeBoer was shot six time and tasered by OPD in his parent's home. Kent DeBoer was having a hard time adjusting to medication changes and was experiencing dramatic emotional and mental swings. His parents called his case worker who in turn called the police to deal with Kent DeBoer's behavior. The police came and acted completely reckless. Officer Jordan, along with Officer Brown and Officer Maynard were involved in the shooting. All three officers entered the home regardless of the objections of Kent DeBoer's parents. They refused to listen to Kent's mother who told them that if they just played it cool and waited outside Kent would calm down, because she had gotten him to take his medicine. The officers ignored their protocol in regard to using the minimum force necessary and instead opened live rounds and a taser on Kent DeBoer while they had pepper spray and bean bags in the car. The officers justified their use of force and charging Kent DeBoer with assault by claiming that Kent DeBoer was throwing hot water and was threatening them with a knife. The parents of Kent DeBoer found no water of any kind on the floor of their home and no knife near were Kent supposedly fell when they returned. At the moment Kent DeBoer is facing over $2 million dollars worth of medical bills (which will come out of tax payers money because Kent is on DSHS) and years of mental and physical therapy. All the officers involved were found justified in their action by the internal investigation.

Examining the officers' past, especially when compared to the past of Stephen L. Edwards who, with the exception of a speeding ticket had no trouble with the law, makes the whole incident at Thriftway on November 7th almost too absurd to comprehend. There can be little doubt that the Sheriff's Office will do a biased investigation into the affair and no meaningful action will be taken to make the streets of Olympia more safe from police harassment and brutality. Dan Kimball's quote in *The Olympian* concerning the investigation, that "it's in everyone's best interest, including the officers," is perhaps is a little too revealing. It is more than likely that the Thurston County Sheriff's Office will handle this case just like every other internal police investigation. Those who kill will go free, the public will be left in the dark, and the blue wall of silence will be preserved.

Olympia CopWatch Needs You!

Olympia CopWatch is an organization made-up of citizens who are concerned with how police behavior effects the community, particularly the homeless, people of color, youth, and the mentally ill. We advocate for police accountability and citizen input into legal and policing affairs in the Olympia area.

We Need Your Help!

We are trying to piece together the events that happened on November 7th 2002 in the parking lot of Bayview Thriftway. We are trying to find all the details surrounding the death of 59 year old man Stephen L. Edwards and how Officer Jordan, Officer Bakala, and the security guard for Thriftway behaved.

No matter what anyone says you can legally talk to us or anyone else about what you saw on that day.

If you have any information you would like to share please contact OlyCopWatch at 1-(360)-252-3281 or OlyCopWatch@email.com. We are willing to keep you anonymous. ◆

More announcements

ber of credit unions already serving a broad range of people in Thurston County, none have a field of membership specifically for low-income people, nor do any provide services designed to their particular needs. The organization's activities will include basic membership share account and loan services; financial counseling; consumer education; homeowner counseling; bill-paying; direct deposit services. Using a consensus decision-making process, TULIP also plans to provide educational forums regarding low-income issues, encouraging honest discourse about the causes of poverty and the American economic system.

The TULIP Credit Union will be housed at the Olympia Food Co-op eastside store, and the Washington State Employees Credit Union plans to provide financial management and data processing dunng its initial operation.

Weekly peace vigils

Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m. in NW corner of Sylvester Park (corner of Legion & Capitol Way)

Fridays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on 4th Ave near the fountain EVERY FRIDAY. Info: call 867-1731 or 491-9093. E-Mail: glen@olywa.net

Project Censored Alert:

Domestic Sweatshops

The Department of Labor states that over half of American garment production shops violate minimum wage and overtime regulations and over 75% violate health and safety laws. In the Los Angeles garment district alone the Department of Labor reports that 61% of garment shops ignore wage and hour regulations, and 96% violate health and safety codes. According to the U.S. General Accounting Office sweatshops are defined as "an employer that violates more than one federal or state labor, industrial homework, occupational safety and health, workers' compensation or industrial regulation law."

The manufacturers of the clothing are contracted out by retail companies, who are not affiliated with the production, or responsible for labor conditions in the factories. A small number of retailers control the majority of the market, and are thus able to dictate the quantity and price of the goods. The cheaper the price, the more there is to be made, and sweatshops offer quantity for virtually nothing.

The employees of these shops are usually newly arrived undocumented immigrants who will work for much less and who are not in a position to go to the authorities for fear of deportation. In 1999, in an effort to curb horrendous working conditions, California Governor Gray Davis signed Bill 633 into law. Designed to crack down on employers who owe an estimated $81 million in unpaid wages, it has since collected $17,274.

Synopsis: Josh Sisco Source: *Clamor*, Jul./Aug. 2002, "American Made: Sweatshops in the USA," by Casey Boland www.projectcensored.org

News from the Prison Front

Halfway Houses Needed

Mark LaRue

Every year there are men and women held in the Washington prison system past there early release date because they have no place to live. A residence is part of a plan for early release, and those who lack one wind-up serving more of their sentence. Halfway houses were introduced to help homeless prisoners over come this problem. Unfortunately the availability of these homes has failed to keep pace with the growth of prisons around Washington State. Consequently we continue to incarcerate people with early release dates even though they could be housed at halfway houses for a fraction of what is spent by the state on their incarceration. At present, Washington State spends over $20,000 per inmate a year. There is no question that this money would be better spent on education or other social programs which face another round of budget cuts by Governor Locke in 2003.

But lawmakers are not likely to anger their ruling class allies by cutting anything from corrections or by pursuing policies that make this possible. Left to their own devices, they are perfectly willing to waste nearly $1 billion on senseless prison policies. Lawmakers are not likely to put money toward anything but prisons unless the hurt and suffering demand the use of sensible alternatives that cut the cost of corrections and save funds to use for other programs.

Students, poor, and working class people must unite in order to make their demands known by lobbying and protesting. People have the power to produce change in government policy, and it is time for us to do to do that if we hope to live a better life in Washington State or anywhere else in America.

Mentally Ill Abused at WCC

Mark LaRue

People often depend on drugs to cope with psychological problems. This can be the only way of controlling erratic behavior in or out of prison. Which makes some people with mental illness interactions with others difficult if not impossible. Mental health personnel at the Washington Corrections Center prescribes medication to mentally ill inmates when the believe it is necessary. Prisoners in the intensive management unit (IMU) get medication from nurses who make rounds three times a day. During those rounds, nurses are accompanied by prison guards- who have taken it upon themselves to decide if a prisoner should receive their medicine. This is often based on whether a prisoner is liked by the guard, or poses some sort of problem for the staff throughout the day.

Nurses quietly condone this practice and say nothing against staff when they beat, gas, or place prisoners in strip cells for protesting a denial of medication. Other prisoners intercede to prevent the abuse, but are told be Doctor Waters- a medical official at the Washington Corrections Center, that he is unable to change procedure because the Lieutenant backed officer Wisty and others who are responsible for these acts.

When notified of this or other offenses perpetrated against mentally ill inmates, prison administrators have sided with the oppressors. Administrators don't if prisoners are harmed by psychiatric care ordered by mental health providers. This sort of treatment comes as no surprise to prisoners or those who support their rights under the Constitution. Those who run the prisons or uphold the law under a capitalist system only respect the rights or needs of oppressed people only when it suits their own interest.

In view of this, we encourage people to unite with us in demanding better care for mentally ill at the WCC. As complicated as their role may be in this: nurses should be the only ones who asking prisoners about or dispersing medication for treating a prisoners psychiatric condition.

Anyone who has a desire to help should contact Mark for more information.
Mark LaRue 629174
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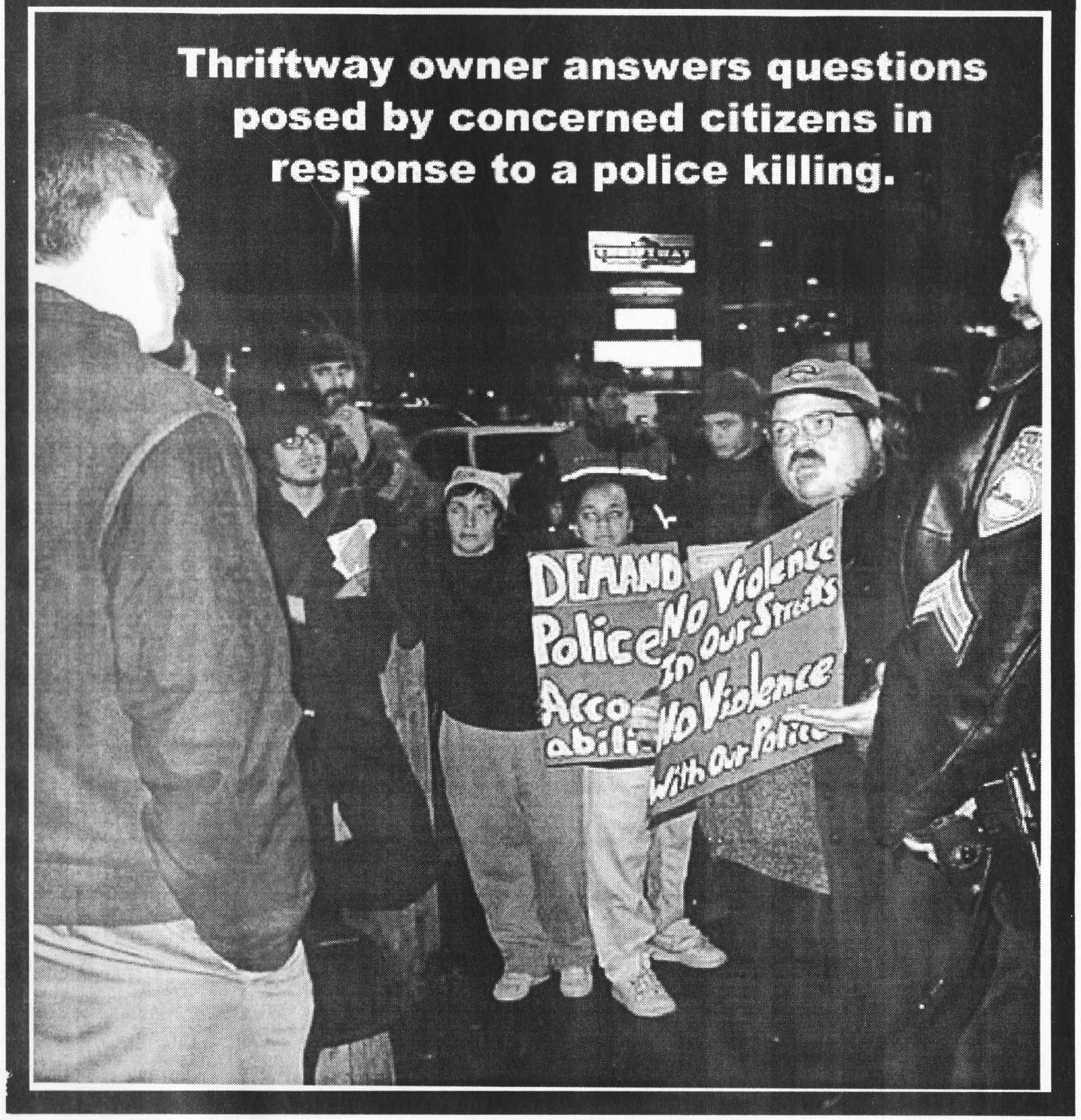

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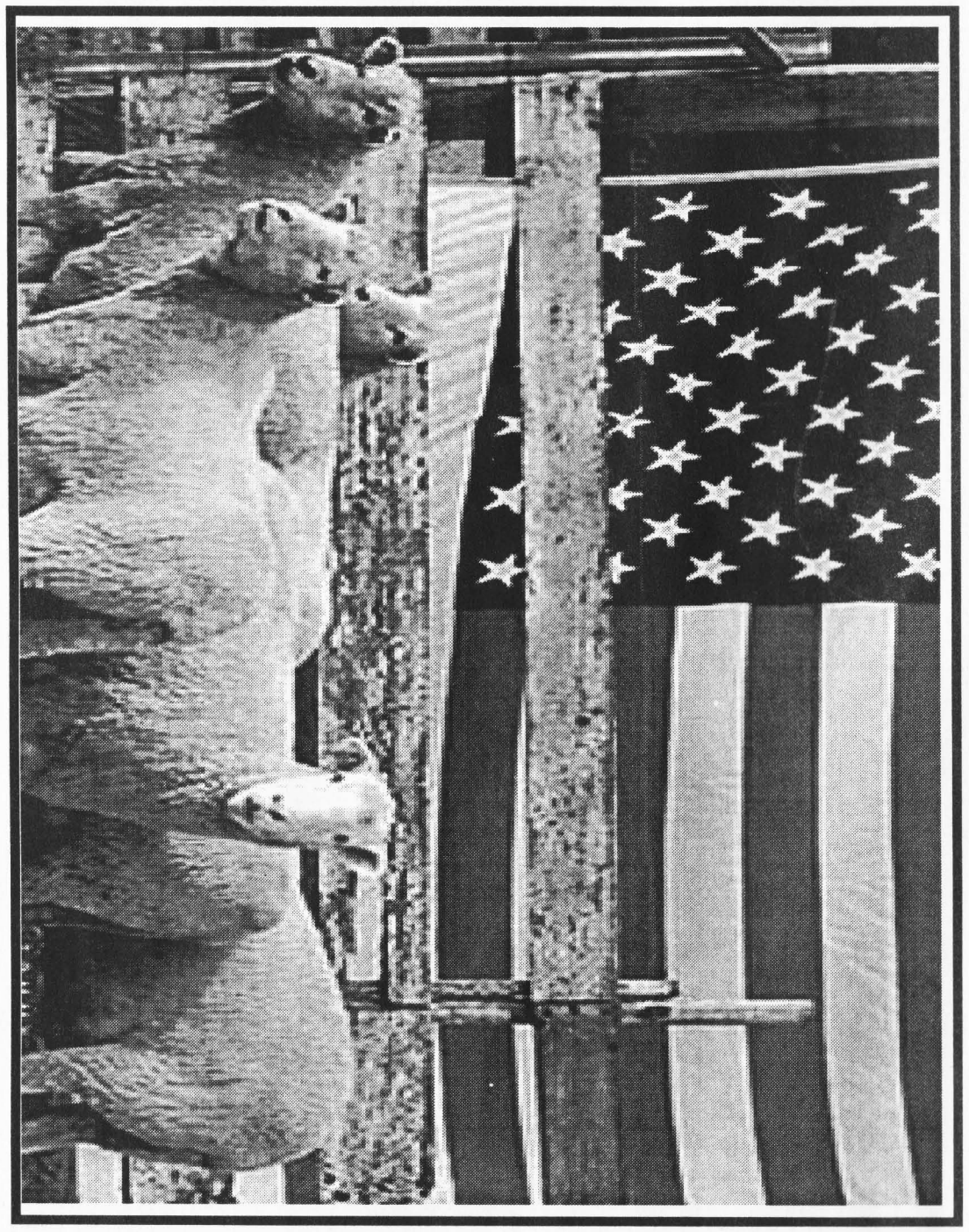

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